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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00330 010302Z

10
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CPR-01 NSCE-00 A-01 /063 W
---------- 106070
R 010300Z MAR 75
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3289

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0330

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR CF CH
SUBJECT: BANQUET INVITATION

1. A CAME IN FEBRUARY 28 EXTENDING TO MRS. BUSH
AND ME AN INVITATION FROM PRIME MINISTER HENRI LOPES
TO ATTEND LOPES' RETURN BANQUET FOR THE PRC LEADERS
AT THE GREAT HALL ON MARCH 2. I WROTE THE P.M. A
RESPECTFUL LETTER THANKING HIM BUT REGRETTING HIS
INVITATION, EXPLAINING THAT PER AGREEMENT WITH THE
PRC USLO OFFICIALS DO NOT ATTEND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS
AT THE GREAT HALL.

2. IN AN UNRELATED CONVERSATION THE AMBASSADORS FROM
SRI LANKA AND TURKEY BOTH EXPRESSED TO ME THEIR ANNOYANCE
THAT THE CONGO EMBASSY MADE A BIG POINT OF TELLING
THEM THAT IF THEY WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE BANQUET
GIVEN BY P.M. LOPES THEIR DCM'S WOULD NOT BE WELCOME
AS SUBSTITUTES. THE AMBASSADORS FOUND THIS IRRITATING
BUT SPECULATED THAT IT PROBABLY RESULTED FROM
THE FACT THAT SOME EVENTS GIVEN BY AFRICAN LEADERS
HAVE BEEN POORLY ATTENDED BY NON-AFRICAN AMBASSADORS.
BUSH

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